

**Amendments to the claims:**

Claim 2 is hereby cancelled; Claims 3-11 (as renumbered) and new Claim 12 are presented as follows

1. (amended) An apparatus for treatment of flat surfaces, the apparatus comprising a support assembly having four corners for supporting a treatment tool, which is to be applied to ~~the~~ a flat surface having four corners supported outside the treatment tool, wherein said support assembly is designed to be brought in contact with said flat surface and operable for step-by-step reciprocating movement along said flat surface, wherein said support assembly comprises:

- a. A first unit and a second unit that float relative to each other, and each have flat surfaces, which units carry a treatment tool, positioned with appropriate friction on said flat surface to be printed on;
- b. Spring system loaded to hold the units as close to each other as possible;
- c. Axles with four identical cams at each corner of said support assembly, each cam having a vertical leg therein which contacts said flat surfaces of each of said first and second units, such that horizontal and vertical relative motions are capable of being created; and
- d. Electromechanical mechanism, which is commanded from the outside, which provides rotational, synchronized motion to a system of parallel axles,

wherein the movement of the support assembly is a sequence of discrete steps, each one comprised of following stages: said first unit being raised relative to said second unit, moving a full step forward and lowering back to said flat surface; said second unit being raised relative to said first unit; and thereby moving a full step forward and lowering back to said flat surface; and, after said discrete steps, printing is capable of activation when both units are on said flat surface.

2 (cancelled)

3. (amended-renumbered) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the said treatment tool is any other a surface treating tool, such as selected from the group consisting of a printing tool, a scanner, pantograph, and a laser engraver etc.
4. (amended-renumbered) ~~A support assembly~~ The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the spring system ~~consists of~~ is a single spring. 5
5. (amended-renumbered) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the two said first and second units are sliding~~ are positioned to slide one on the other by tracks ~~for the such that horizontal movement and the vertical relative motions~~ movement are created by changing the length of said legs.
6. (amended-renumbered) The apparatus according to claim ~~4~~ 6, wherein the legs length can be regulated to handle a surface of non-uniform height, ~~such as in cases where the surface to be treated is laid over the surface which is stepped on.~~ 10
7. (amended-renumbered) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the tool mounting~~ the height of said treatment tool above said flat surface can be regulated.
8. (amended-renumbered) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the direction of the rotation of the axes is reversed, so that the stepping is in the opposite direction~~ said axes are capable of reversing directions. 15
9. (amended-renumbered) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the said treatment tool is another support assembly, so that~~ thereby permitting a two-axes operation ~~is possible.~~ 20
10. (amended-renumbered) A method for treatment of flat surfaces ~~the with the apparatus claimed in claim 1, said~~ method comprising the steps of:
- a. Mounting a said treatment tool onto a said support assembly, wherein ~~the said~~ treatment tool is to be applied to ~~the~~ said flat surface supported outside the treatment tool; 25
  - b. Placing ~~the~~ said support assembly onto said flat surface; and
  - c. Driving ~~the~~ said support assembly for step-by-step reciprocating movement thereof along said flat surface.
11. (amended-renumbered) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said support assembly is capable of moving on said flat surface and is of ~~may~~ any size with respect to said flat surface. 30
- 12 (new) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said treatment tool is a printing tool.